**Mark Scheme for British Sign Language Productive Skills Test: Beginners**

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| **GRADE** | **CONTENT & ORGANISATION** | **/ 20** | **VOCABULARY & PRODUCTION** | **/ 40** | **GRAMMAR** | **/ 40** |
| 90+ (High 1st) | Outstanding response to the task and communicates extremely clearly and without ambiguity. Fully coherent and detailed. No need for repetition. | 18-20 | Outstanding range and choice of vocabulary and expressions, well above the requirements of the level; fully accurate and appropriate use. Outstanding production for a non-native signer.  | 36-40 | Outstanding use of different tenses and structures, well above the requirements of the level. Highly fluent and virtually error-free. | 36-40 |
| 80-89 (Good 1st) | Excellent response to the task and communicates extremely clearly and without ambiguity. Uses relevant information to convey facts and narrate events. Minimal or no need for repetition. | 16-17 | Excellent range of choice of vocabulary and expressions, above the requirements of the level; fully accurate and appropriate use. Excellent production for a non-native signer although there may be a few minor errors. | 32-35 | Excellent use of different tenses and structures, above the requirements of the level. Very fluent, coherent and consistent – instances of minor errors, usually in the most ambitious language.  | 32-35 |
| 70-79 (Low 1st) | Very good response to the task and communicates clearly. Uses some information to convey facts and narrate events. Ideas clearly organised and easy to follow. Little or no need for repetition. | 14-15 | Very good range and choice or vocabulary, with good attempts to use idiomatic expressions. Vocabulary used is appropriate to the topic. Very good production for a non-native signer with some minor slips. | 28-31 | Very good use of different tenses and structures. Uses more complex language features, with only occasionally mistakes. Fluent most of the time and overall in control of the material. | 28-31 |
| 60-69 (2,1) | Content good and relevant to the context; few gaps and/or repetitions. Ideas well organised and illustrated. Occasional need for repetition. | 12-13 | Good range and choice of vocabulary, and expressions are generally used appropriately. Good production with few errors. | 24-27 | Good range of structures, which include different tenses or time frames. The message is generally accurate, clear and coherent. | 24-27 |
| 50-59 (2,2) | Generally communicates the essential information of the task, though with occasional gaps and/or repetitions. Connection between ideas is generally clear. Some need for repetition. | 10-11 | Adequate range of vocabulary, though choice occasionally inappropriate; errors leading to occasional misunderstanding. Production is generally accurate although there may be some instances of unclear or inaccurate hand shapes. | 20-23 | Awareness of verbs and time frames, but less consistent overall. Sufficiently accurate for the basis of the message to be clear. | 20-23 |
| 40-49 (3rd) | Content is general, with some gaps and/or repetitions. Limited organisation and cohesion. Signing often contains hesitations and pauses, limited ability to link ideas/sentences. Needs repetition. | 8-9 | Limited range and choice of vocabulary, errors leading to more frequent misunderstanding. Production may be inconsistent but still some instances of accurate production. | 16-19 | Some grammatical inaccuracies; control of patterns imperfect, sometimes affecting communication. Everyday messages are sufficiently accurate to be comprehensible. | 16-19 |
| 25-39 (Fail) | Content lacks any detail / unrelated to the question / very short/ little or no organisation evident / lacks coherence. Signing very slow and uneven with frequent halts and need for repetition. | 5-7 | Vocabulary very limited for the purpose / simple and repetitive; frequent errors and excessive repetitions often leading to misunderstanding. Frequent and serious errors of production leading to misunderstanding. | 10-15 | Frequent and major grammatical inaccuracies leading to misunderstanding. Very simple sentence structure. | 10-15 |
| 0-24 (Low Fail) | Failure to complete task / too short to assign a mark which reflects its quality. Totally disorganised. Candidate cannot sign at a sufficient speed to be comprehensible. | 0-4 | Vocabulary used not a level of module. Production too poor to be comprehensible.  | 0-9 | Nothing coherent or accurate enough to be comprehensible. Grammar totally insufficient for level. | 0-9 |